THE LOGGER'S BARK

Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 11188

Tacoma, WA 98411

MARCH 2006 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays March 8th and 29th at the library Administration building at 7:30 pm, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday March 1st 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

License Testing - Tuesday March 14th , 7:30 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline Sunday March 26th 2006- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Informal 2-meter SSB net every Tuesday on 144.275 MHz USB, after the formal repeater net on 147.280 feel free to drop in.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

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CLUB MEETINGS: 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Pierce County Library Administration Building, 3005 - 112th Street East, Tacoma, WA

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA REPEATERS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING FREQUENCIES:

147.28 / .88 MHz (PL 103.5)	144.97 - Packet	440.625 / 445.625 (PL 103.5)
147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)		

The R.C.T. Clubhouse is located at 1249 South Washington Street, Tacoma, Washington. Mailing address for all Club business: Post Office Box 11188, Tacoma WA 98411 253-759-2040

Regular Membership Fees for FULL Members, except students, Family Members and Senior Citizens is $30.00 per calendar year. 1st 2 Family Members of the same household will pay $15.00 per calendar year. Full time students, up to and including seniors in college, ½ the fee for Full Membership ($15.00). Membership fee for Senior Citizens (65 and over) is $25.00 per calendar year. Lifetime membership: 20-times the appropriate annual fee.

E-mail all articles & advertising to thebark@comcast.net, or to :Gary McAdams 11405 88th AVE CT SW Lakewood, WA 98498-4109 Commercial Advertising per issue: $60.00 full page, $30 per one-half page, $15.00 per quarter page, Business Cards $5.00. Advertising moneys help offset the costs of publication and mailing. Swap and Wanted Column articles are free to R.C.T. members. *The Logger's Bark* does not verify or guarantee statements in the Swap or Wanted columns. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in *The Logger's Bark* if credit line is included in the report.

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RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

March 2006

Volume 2 Issue 3

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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Special points of interest:

- Elmer board page 4
- Rubber Ducky on page 6!
- March Calendar page 5
- Shack of the month! Check out Worth W7WG on page 20!
- Birthday list on page 21.

From The Prez

Well here I am sitting in the Orange County airport waiting for a flight home. I took a few days from work and ham radio to take our grandsons and their mom to Disneyland for the first time.

It was Dawn's and my first time too. It was kind of strange to be away from a radio for 5 days (three days of Disney / California Adventures and two days for travel). After a few years you kind of get used to just picking up a mic, or a HT and talking to your friends and family. It was just too much of a chore to try and keep two little ones in line, and accounted for, to do any radio. We did have fun though. After three days of walking around all day in Disneyland and California Adventures, it is going to be kind of nice to be able to go back to work so we can get some rest. (Sometimes vacations take more out of you than work does). I couldn't have handled any more walking around. I'm kind of looking forward to getting back to my radios. At least you sit to use them.

I missed the mini flea market / open house this month so I guess I'll have to make it to open house next Saturday. Speaking of flea markets, we don't want to forget that it is time for the mic and key flea market. It is coming up on Saturday the 11th of this month. I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of hams I only get to see at that gathering. It is also a lot of fun to look around for those items you just can't do without, or get rid of those you can. We will have our radio club information table there. I'm sure we will be up stairs as usual. If you get a chance, stop by and help us out. Frank (AC7JY) will be organizing it this year. I'm sure he would love to see you.

We are still looking for someone to organize field day this year. We still don't have a chairman for the committee. If you would like to try your hand at this fun event please contact me, Nick or Rich. Nick (K7MO and Rich (KR7W) did it last year and will offer assistance to whoever does it this year. Field day is a fun and very important event. It offers us the opportunity to keep our emergency operating skills in tune. Please consider this task.

In closing I would like to let everyone know that we sold the car that Dr. Tom Murphy (N7QHX) donated for $2000.00. This will help the club with its finances a lot. Thank you Dr. Murphy.

dit dit dit da dit da 73 de kk7qs.

QSL Card of the Month Submitted by: Bob, K7MXE

W7JPI

Leo P. Swatloski
P O Box 453
Sonoita, AZ 85637-0453
Santa Cruz County DM41qq w7jpi@theriver.com

Rig: Yaesu FT-847 Ant: KLM / Mirage 2M - 22C / 435 - 40 CX
Rotor: Yaesu Model G - 5400 B Tracking: STS PLUS

Confirming QSO with	Date (Z)	UTC	Freq / 2XMode	Pwr Out	Report
K7MXE /M	05/07/21	2103	145.8 ISS 437.8 X-BAND	20	5-8

73 Leo

QSL Tnx

I worked this guy from my mobile and was parked in the shade of a tree talking to a friend. I had been waiting for him and using the time had set up the mobile radio in case a pass of the space lab was to be. All of a sudden a CQ was heard and here is the card to prove the QSO. Bob, K7MXE

PS: Bob worked W7JPI through the ISS (International Space Station) Ed.

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start… First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

1.Technical questions, Classes
2. Help with Code
3. License Examinations
4. Antenna and Station planning
5. Antenna and Tower erection
6. Buying new or used equipment
7. Equipment repair
8. Understanding and operating your equipment
9. DX and Contests
10. Club and ARRL activities
11. Using test equipment
12. IRLP

Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic

Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10

Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3

Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2

Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12

Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11

If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board!

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays March 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th Club Repeater net 147.280
- SSB Net, same dates as above on 144.275 USB after SSB net.
- Board Meeting Wednesday March 1st @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays: that's the 8th & 22nd.
- VE Testing at RCT Clubhouse Tuesday March. 14th at 7:30 PM.
- Tax day is only .5 months away. Panic now and avoid the rush!

MARCH 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

EDITORS NOTES...

Hello Again Club Members!

A fairly busy month this time, even if it was short one…

The 3Y0X expedition to Peter I island is now history. I hope that all you Dx'ers out there managed to work them at least once. It was a well-run expedition, and deserving of a place in the DX hall of fame. (If there is such a place!)

In other news, the "Suitsat" which is discussed in the "Conversations" column by Ward N0AX , is also QRT . I did not listen for this one. Possibly one of our members did?

We had a very big windstorm come through Tacoma this month. Hopefully the antennas stayed up, and the power was on. Here at radio WG7X, the power was off for about 14 hours. Bud, chief radioman at K7BUD, reported that the power was off over there for almost two days!

Seriously though folks, I think that most of our members came through the big blow in fine shape!

Last thing on the agenda is a big Hurrah to Nick K7MO for his work as the RCT program chairman! He has had a big pair of shoes to fill, and he is doing great!

A tip 'O the pen to Nick!

Until Next month, 73, Gary WG7X

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?

February has been a busy month. I've been taking Bob N7AHR back and forth to the Dr. And then the hospital for some eye surgery, and in a convalescence home for a week. Blind is not fun.

But he is on the mend, and his eye ought to be stable. With 6 or 7 more surgeries (both eyes) he ought to see fairly well. His Doctors. and hospital. are in Tacoma.

However, taking Bob home to Eatonville, Tuesday the 21st of February, I almost blacked out in the post office. My vision got all sparkly in both eyes. But then it seemed to affect just my left eye, like someone sprayed the bottom of my vision with a big streak of gray paint.

So the next day I saw a vascular specialist, and my GP said everything was normal for my age . Thanks to Dr. Tom Murphy and Marion Gurley, I got right on it. But I am going to 'try' to cut back on some of my volunteer activities.

But which ones do I chose? My club activities, the County court-house with the school kids (2 - 3 times a month), taking a friend (Mike) to the Doctor and the drug store 3 or 4 times a month, or Bob with his problems?

His girl friend June ran off to Montana (read chauffeur). Do I tell Bob to walk? Do I tell everyone to 'stuff it'? how do I pick and chose? I'm supposed to be retired and I would like to enjoy some of it. I realize it's easy for the more hard hearted to stand there and say "all you gott'a do is...". But you don't live here.

I'm going to have to make some changes before you see me running naked down the street with my hands over my face talking to my self! I don't think I'll get that far, but it's crossed my mind.

I think My problem is a lot of stress and short hours. Gawd my spleen feels better.

Now RF stuff. Has any one come up with just what end effect really is? Also why when you look in VHF / UHF books you sometimes see, for 1/2 wave length, instead of 468 / Freq for Feet, you will see something like 460 / Freq (or times 12 inches = 5520 / Freq for 1/2 wave in inches). Does that mean Vhf / Uhf have even more end effect?

Come on some of you engineer types, there has got to be an answer.

Back in 1997 at Clover park, I was asked by staff if I might be interested in teaching a class on RF and antennas. Well that's probably just as well.

And that was the time when Voc. schools went to colleges (More Federal funding) and the staff paper work went to times ten (read Federal CMA). Well, we'll get some aluminum up in the air and talk to Portland, Oregon.....and Portland Maine would be nice too.

So see you next month 73 and 450 from the Duck, Rich ...N7ANF

VE TEAM REPORT

VE REPORT by John Clarke AC7WW

On Wednesday morning January 25, 2006 a special VE test session was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club-house.

Three VE's conducted an amateur license examination of two candidates.

Of the two, one passed Element two to become a Technician and the other candidate failed to advance after taking the Element four examination.

Attending VE's John Clarke, AC7WW, Al Churchill, AC7BU, Al Burleson, K7HW

Eleven Volunteer Examiners gathered at The Radio Club of Tacoma club house on the evening of February 14, 2006. Twenty elements were administered to thirteen candidates. Ten elements were passed for a pass rate of 50 %.

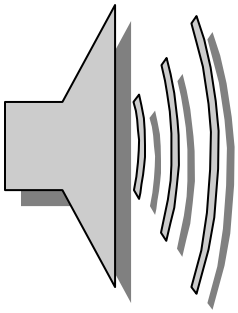
Seven new Technicians joined the amateur ranks, one paper upgrade to General and Harry KE7FLM advanced to Amateur Extra class.

Steve, AD7AB, reported that of the eight students attending the weekend Technician class, six came to the testing session and passed their examination.

A special thanks goes out the VE's who participated in the Valentines Day tests. Brave fellows all!

Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse ... 10 a.m. to 2 p.m....There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) ...Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.



Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28 (the W7DK repeater) for the latest news and announcements from the club!

10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375

CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150

2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275

CONTINOUUSLY ACTIVE SINCE 1916.

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If you know anyone in the club who could use a word of cheer, congratulations or condolences, please contact Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772 or e-mail hamtalker2@msn.com

We're on the WEB: WWW.W7DK.ORG

HOW ABOUT A LITTLE HUMOR? (VERY LITTLE)

Introducing the new Bio-Optic Organized Knowledge device, trade named: BOOK

BOOK is a revolutionary breakthrough in technology: no wires, no electric circuits, no batteries, nothing to be connected or switched on. It's so easy to use, even a child can operate it.

Compact and portable, it can be used anywhere -- even sitting in an armchair by the fire -- yet it is powerful enough to hold as much information as a CD-ROM disc. Here's how it works:

BOOK is constructed of sequentially numbered sheets of paper (recyclable), each capable of holding thousands of bits of information. The pages are locked together with a custom-fit device called a binder, which keeps the sheets in their correct sequence.

Opaque Paper Technology (OPT) allows manufacturers to use both sides of the sheet, doubling the information density and cutting costs. Experts are divided on the prospects for further increases in information density; for now, BOOKs with more information simply use more pages.

Each sheet is scanned optically, registering information directly into your brain. A flick of the finger takes you to the next sheet. BOOK may be taken up at any time and used merely by opening it.

Unlike other display devices, BOOK never crashes or requires rebooting, and it can even be dropped on the floor or stepped on without damage. However, it can become unusable if immersed in water for a significant period of time. The "browse" feature allows you to move instantly to any sheet and move forward or backward as you wish. Many come with an "index" feature, which pinpoints the exact location of selected information for instant retrieval.

An optional "BOOKmark" accessory allows you to open BOOK to the exact place you left it in a previous session -- even if the BOOK has been closed. BOOKmarks fit universal design standards; thus, a single BOOKmark can be used in BOOKs by various manufacturers. Conversely, numerous BOOKmarkers can be used in a single BOOK if the user wants to store numerous views at once. The number is limited only by the number of pages in the BOOK.

You can also make personal notes next to BOOK text entries with an optional programming tool, the Portable Erasable Nib Cryptic Intercommunication Language Stylus (PENCILS).

Portable, durable, and affordable, BOOK is being hailed as a precursor of a new entertainment wave. Also, BOOK's appeal seems so certain that thousands of content creators have committed to the platform and investors are reportedly flocking. Look for a flood of new titles soon.

FCC NONCOMMITTAL ON "MORSE CODE" PROCEEDING ACTION

Just when the FCC will act on the "Morse code" proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, remains hazy. The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) last July proposing to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. The Amateur Radio community has filed more than 3800 comments on the proceeding, and additional comments continue to show up, even though the formal comment deadline was last October 31 (with reply comments by November 14). The next--and most-anticipated--step for the Commission is to formally adopt any revisions to its rules and conclude the proceeding with a Report and Order (R&O) that spells out the changes and specifies their effective date.

"There really is no news," an FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer told ARRL this week on background. "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time. We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Beyond eliminating the Morse requirement, the FCC declined proposing any other suggested changes to the Amateur Service.

The proceeding began with 18 petitions for rule making--many just calling for the elimination of the Morse requirement but some asking for more far-reaching changes in the Amateur Service rules. The various petitions attracted a total of some 6200 comments. The FCC subsequently consolidated the petitions--including one from the ARRL asking the FCC to establish a new entry-level license class and to retain the Morse requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants--into a single proceeding designated WT 05-235

The FCC has not proposed extending HF privileges to current Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination. In its NPRM&O the FCC suggested that in a no-Morse-requirement regime, "codeless Techs" could gain HF access by taking the Element 3 General class written examination.

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have *no* impact on either the current HF CW-only subbands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees.

Before it releases an R&O on the Morse code proceeding, however, the WTB wants to wrap up action in another Amateur Radio-related docket--the "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140, released April 15, 2004. A dozen petitions for rulemaking, some dating back to 2001, were consolidated in the Omnibus proceeding.

In that NPRM, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice re-farming plan aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus sub bands and expanding portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. The FCC also agreed with an ARRL proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF sub bands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit). WT 04-140 further proposed to essentially do away with FCC rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 12 and 10 meters.

.Reprinted from ARRL letter W/permission

...“We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

LEAGUE COMPLAINS TO FCC ABOUT BPL DATABASE IRREGULARITIES

Describing the FCC-mandated BPL Interference Resolution Web site <http://www.bpldatabase.org/> as "woefully incomplete and improperly managed," the ARRL has called on the FCC to order database manager United Telecomm Council (UTC) to fix it immediately or appoint "a competent database manager" to repair the problems.

"The database management is either shamefully incompetent on the part of UTC or simply nonexistent," the ARRL said in a complaint this week to the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET). "The database is merely 'garbage in, garbage out,' and in its present form cannot serve any useful purpose at all, much less a 'sufficient' means of addressing BPL interference."

In a related development, UTC has terminated the ARRL's access to the BPL Interference Resolution Web site, and the League plans to file a separate complaint to the FCC on that issue. League efforts to access the database yielded this error message: "The system has determined that this line of searching constitues [sic] unauthorized use of the database. Cease operations immediately."

The BPL database should be accessible from other ISPs, however, and the ARRL wants to hear from anyone else spotting discrepancies as well as from those whose database access has been curtailed or cut off.

The ARRL already has complained about the UTC database's use of ZIP codes as a sole database access key. To simplify searches, the League has requested that the FCC require UTC to provide a list of ZIP codes where BPL systems are on line or pending.

The FCC ordered creation of the BPL Interference Resolution database to provide licensed spectrum users a central, public information source on local BPL operations to help resolve incidents of harmful interference.

Commission rules require BPL operators to provide the name of the BPL provider, frequencies of operation, postal ZIP codes served, manufacturer and type of BPL equipment, a point-of-contact telephone number and e-mail address for interference inquiries and resolution, and the proposed or actual date the system will start operation.

Having correct and up-to-date information in the BPL Interference Resolution Database benefits both BPL providers and licensed services, the League has pointed out. For example, a radio amateur suspecting BPL interference might be able to rule out the possibility by consulting the database.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI--the League's point man on BPL technical issues--says that while the BPL database has its shortcomings, ARRL staff have until now made extensive use of it to help radio amateurs deal appropriately with interference issues.

"In the past, when amateurs have reported BPL interference, one industry response has been to claim that the amateur station is hearing some other noise and thinking that it's BPL," Hare said. The BPL database makes it possible to baseline noise levels in advance of a BPL deployment and can even help to prevent erroneous interference reports, he pointed out.

"The UTC's escalating restrictions on access to the database will serve little other purpose than to make it harder for amateurs to identify BPL interference correctly," Hare remarked.

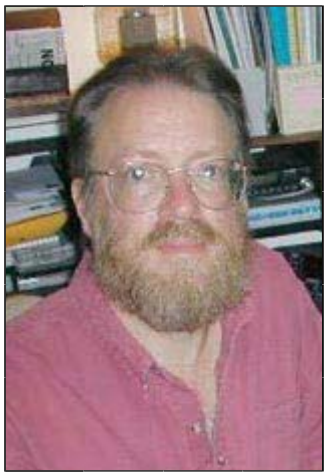
The ARRL complaint said the FCC should require UTC "to revisit every entry in the database and verify independently the information provided."

Alternatively, the League requested that the FCC relieve UTC as database manager and appoint a new one that will supervise it properly.

"The fox, therefore, should be withdrawn from the henhouse," the League said. Attached to the League's letter of complaint was a compilation of BPL database errors and omissions the ARRL discovered between January 27 and February 14, 2006. "There may be others," the ARRL noted. The League said the FCC is obliged under Part 15 to apply sanctions on BPL providers not complying with the database requirements.

Most noteworthy among the alleged violators are the Briarcliff Manor, NewYork, and Allentown, Pennsylvania-area BPL systems that have been the cause of substantial interference to Amateur Radio stations. The League recently asked the FCC to shut down the Briarcliff Manor system because of longstanding interference complaints. Such BPL operators have no incentive to comply with the database requirements because "their scofflaw attitudes" toward the few BPL regulations in place have been rewarded by FCC inaction, the ARRL complaint said.

CONVERSATIONS FROM THE CONTESTORS RATE SHEET, BY WARD, N0AX



In the Public Eye

It was with no little surprise this weekend that after clicking on my Google News icon and scrolling down the page I saw the ARRL byline on a news story about SuitSat. (A series of stories have been posted on the ARRL home page at http://www.arrl.org.)

SuitSat (I like to call it 'Suitnik') has really caught the eye of the public, if not their ear since the signal is actually quite weak. Today, once again, the ARRL byline passed under the eyes of millions of readers and there are more than 400 news stories about ham radio's latest OSCAR, designated AO-54 today.

This interest in the drifting suit, soon to flame out in the upper atmosphere, is part technical and part imagination. After all, the visual image of a human-like figure adrift in space is one of the oldest in all of space flight. It sends a shiver down one's spine to think about being in that suit, with the Earth drawing closer in each passing hour.

Imagery aside, however, SuitSat has also captured the imagination of many thousands of students around the world. They are truly interested in this experiment, in the mechanics of orbits, and in the ham radio transmitter, gamely sending its message to hams around the world.

How many will have the opportunity to participate in the School Club Roundup next week?

Here is the magic of radio! The interface between technology and the natural world is a place of continuous discovery. This is where scientists and engineers are born! Not because it is "good for society" or because it's a useful career, but because it has spark, it's open-ended, there is no book of canned answers to be regurgitated, and it's real!

In 1959, Sputnik jump-started a generation on the path to the Moon, the integrated circuit, and the Internet. I remember being carried out into the street by my parents to look up into the Pennsylvania sky with all the neighbors, straining to see the tiny point of light moving through the stars. I rather doubt that SuitSat's excitement will have the same galvanic effect on as many people, but all around the world young eyes and ears are on a tiny transmitter adrift in a spacesuit far above the world.

73, Ward N0AX

Back dropped by the blackness of space and Earth's horizon, SuitSat-1 begins its first orbit around Earth. The suit will enter the atmosphere and burn up in a few weeks. [NASA Photo]

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Contesters Rate Sheet, February 8th 2006

MARCH CONTESTS

RRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 4 to 2400Z, Mar 5
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0400Z-0600 Mar 4
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	2200Z-2359Z, Mar 4 (Low Band) and
	0000Z-0159Z, Mar 5 (Low Band) and
	0800Z-1159Z, Mar 5 (High Band)
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 5
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 6
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 7
AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 7
Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase	0230Z-0400Z, Mar 9
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 11 to 1000Z, Mar 12
Idaho QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12 and
	1300Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 11
Oklahoma QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 11 to 0200Z, Mar 12 and
	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 12
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 12
UBA Spring Contest, CW	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 12
NSARA Contest	1200Z-1600Z, Mar 12 and 1800Z-2200Z, Mar 12
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 15
SARL VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z, Mar 17 to 1600Z, Mar 18 and
	1600Z, Mar 18 to 1000Z, Mar 19
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 18
BARTG Spring RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 18 to 1200Z, Mar 19
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Mar 18 (144) and
	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 18 (432)
CLARA and Family HF Contest	1700Z, Mar 18 to 1700Z, Mar 19
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 19
9K 15-Meter Contest	1200Z-1600Z, Mar 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 20
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 25 to 2359Z, Mar 26
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Mar 26
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 27

Radio Club of Tacoma Board Meeting

1 February, 2006

The 1 February 2006 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS,
Secretary:	Larry Watson -- KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-- KD7TRC,
Board Member:	Frank Palmer -- AC7JY,
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member	Larry Alvar – KD7TQW

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 4 January 2006 board meeting were approved as read/corrected. Moved by Larry Alvar, and approved by voice vote.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Larry reported the following correspondence: Bank statements from Washington Mutual; the Qwest telephone service bill; The Crawford Mountain repeater site lease forms and contract; Several QSL Cards, Membership renewals from Herb Watson, Robert Teitzel, Lester Fries, and John Perrigo;, Club newsletters from OARS and the Clark County Amateur Radio Club, and receipt of our Commercial General Liability certificate from the New Hampshire Insurance Company. We also received an obituary notice for Lorin W. Bristol, along with his QSL card from Don Sehulster of Kenaman, Arizona.

Mick Pier reported receipt of an e-mail for sale notice on a tower, beam and associated equipment from a Ham in South Hill, which will be posted to the Club bulletin board.

Mick also reported on a phone call from Mrs. Holzborn who has radio equipment her husband wished to donate to the Club's museum.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC

Motion: Peter, AD7EU moved to authorize the Treasure to pay all 2006 normal and recurring Club bills. Motion was seconded and approved by voice vote of officers present.

The Treasurer provided a summary financial statement for 2005, but has not yet received complete information from all club activities. She noted that the club benefits from a large number of donated services and materials provided by club members.

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee: Speaker/Call

W7DK 90th Anniversary: Peter Baker--AD7EU W7DK's 90th Anniversary Celebration Chair reported on his work to define the activities and plans. He solicited ideas and inputs from all and provided a first draft thought paper to promote discussion. During the discussion it was recommended that the actual Radio Operations event be held on the actual anniversary date which is Thursday, the 19th of October. The consensus at this meeting was to hold a banquet dinner at a site to be determined prior to the actual October anniversary, perhaps at the Elks, possibly close to this year's Field Day activities. There followed a discussion of planning for the costs associated with the Anniversary. (*A copy of Peter's ideas and request for suggestions is attached to the original minutes*)

Club Safety Committee: Rick Rose—KD7EMW provided a detailed report and presentation on his analysis of Club safety requirements, prioritization and anticipated costs. Rick's report generated considerable discussion. Budget realities prevent the Club from accomplishing all the items at this time, and the report was designed to allow the board to determine what the Club's finances might bear and act accordingly. Particular attention was given to the First Aid Kit, Yard lighting, Smoke Detectors and alarms. Rick pointed out that smoke detectors had little value to those actually in the club, since they are designed to awaken sleeping people. If they are to be of value, there should be some method of alerting someone in the Club who could take the appropriate action.

Rick is also planning to include articles on safety subjects for the BARK.

Rick included in the report a petition for the establishment of a fund for designated donations of cash, cash from the sale of equipment and proceeds from fund raisers) for the purpose of purchasing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) (Cost estimated at $ 1,500). After discussion, the Board elected to defer this item to a future date.

There was also a recommendation that we approach the general membership to determine if any of the items we need are available as donations from club members. Rick is also concerned that what we do acquire is adequate to our needs and fully serviceable.

Motion: Peter Baker—AD7EU moved that we approve funding in the amount of $200 for purchase of items from the prioritized list with the requirement that replacement

of the Yard light on the south side of the building is included in this package. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. One dissenting vote was cast, over concern that the club should have approved funding of a greater amount.

Rick also pointed out that he needs access to the Club to perform his duties.

Motion: Peter Baker—AD7EU moved that we authorize Clubhouse access for Rick. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

(*A copy of Rick Rose's report is attached to the original copy of the minutes.*)

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Scholarship Committee: Pat—KD7TRC advised the group that it is time someone began to look at our annual scholarship program.

Discussion Topics: None

Clubhouse Access: During the discussion of providing Rick Rose—KD7EMW with access to the clubhouse, it was noted that the new Board officers need similar access.

Action: Larry Watson-KD4VOM, determine if alarm keys are available for issue to the new Board Officers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL CLUB MEETING
25 January, 2005

The 25 January Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS
Vice President:	Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary:	Larry Watson --KD4VOM
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter --KD7TRC
Board Member:	Frank Palmer--AC7JY
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo -- WV7O
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by the President, Mick Pier

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self Introductions were completed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Nick Winter – K7MO Reported on a recent visit to Jerry with Harry Wong -- N7DOE. Jerry seems much better and is now eating on his own. Jerry has a whiteboard of visitors and asked for phone numbers too. He appears to have made progress since our last report a week or so ago, but is still seriously ill and remains in the Madigan Intensive Care unit.

Memorial Services for Silent Key Ed B Huntzinger K7SAA are planned. For those who knew William A Jacobs -- N0CYR of Colorado, has become Silent Key

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CW Class: Rich Patrick – KR7W reported on the completion of the CW Class where most were able to complete their first CW QSOs. He thanked Rick Leary W7LKG for all the work he put into the course and especially the reworking of some of the training sessions to promote better progress. Special thanks to Worth -- W7WG and Rick Leary W7LGK for their assistance in making CW QSOs with class members,

Worth -- W7WG made presentations and provided QSL Cards to Pat – KD7TRC, Peter – AD7EU and Rick – KE7EMW with whom he had made CW contacts during the course, and he even had one for Rich Patrick…

Field Day: Rich Patrick – K7RW Noted that Field Day (scheduled for the last weekend in June) planning needs to begin. The team last year had had several meetings by this point and the project requires an early start and detailed planning to be successful.

Annual Winter QRP Contest: Rich Patrick – KR7W announced that FYBO, (Freeze Your Buns Off) Wahkiakum Contest Club -- WW7LW is planning to support the Annual winter QRP contest, operating at Owen's Beach, Point Defiance Park on 4 February (Saturday). Last year the team placed second.

W7DK Website: Rich Patrick – KR7W advised the group that commercial advertising will not be posted on the W7DK.org website.

contact on 18 Jan and 13:15 local.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

VE Testing: John Clarke – AC7WW

John reported on a special testing session conducted this morning at the Radio Club of Tacoma clubhouse. Three VE's conducted an amateur license examination for two candidates. One passed element two to become a Technician, the other candidate failed to advance after taking element four. *The VE Report is attached to the minutes*.

Membership: Jill Palmer – K7JIL Said that membership renewals are moving along, and that the current memberships estimate, including life and honorary members is about 140. She also announced that Roger Terwilliger – WA7ANJ has become a life member.

Jill also reported that Frank is working on an improved life membership card, probably laminated, and perhaps with a photo…

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Peter 1 DXpedition: The team of about 22 folks leaves 2 February and is planning to be operational around 7 February at Peter 1 Island.

Suit SAT: Bob Purdom – KE7DGQ Announced that on 2 February, the International Space Station plans to push out an old Russian Space Suit which has been outfitted with gear to support amateur radio operations. It is expected to travel with the ISS and then gradually slow and decay finally burning up in the atmosphere.

160 Meter CW: Worth –W7WG noted that there seems to be an increase in CW on 160 meters. Rick Leary – W7LGK reported that this weekend there is a CW Contest on 160 meters.

Novice CW in the '60's Article: Rich Patrick KR7W Recalled his difficult CW days in the 60s, and recommended an article in a **Robert F. Heytow Memorial Radio Club K9YA-** newsletter, which chronicles the difficulty novices had getting CW contacts than.

FCC CW Licensing Requirement: Several mentioned that they thought an article in the ARRL Website indicated that the Amateur Radio Service licensing CW requirement may probably disappear within the next 30 to 60 days. (*Later research failed to confirm this information*)

CW Contacts: Peter Baker – AD7EW has exercised his new CW skills to make contacts in Alberta Canada, and Missouri.

Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, Mine accident survivor: It was reported that Randall has come out of his coma, but remains in critical condition.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter -- K7MO

Tonight's program had two sections. First Nick presented the results of the Survey conducted a few meetings back, and plans to use some of the survey findings to plan future program events

The second section consisted of an abbreviated version of the Radio Club of Tacoma's Annual Christmas Awards Banquet video presentation. Video provided by Rick Rose -- KE7EMW and Larry Watson -- KD4VOM.

Door Prize won by:

A Hat Certificate from Hot Press door prize was won by Chuck Kemmer – AC7QN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

PINOCHLE & POTLUCK
See you at the clubhouse
Saturday March 4th 6:30 P.M.
For more info call: 759-4898
Jack, WA7ENB & Marilyn Moore

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MINUTES

8 February, 2006

The 8 February Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS,
Vice President:	Jill Palmer – K7JIL,
Secretary:	Larry Watson --KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter --KD7TRC,
Board Member:	Frank Palmer--AC7JY,
Board Member	Peter Baker – AD7EU

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by Mick Pier – KK7QS

INTRODUCTIONS:

Guests Bill Karle KG4UPN, Doug Galati, and Jack Bennett KA7HGE were welcomed and introduced followed by the normal self introductions of members.

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: Nick Winter reported on a recent visit by Harry – N7DOE to Jerry Seligman. Jerry seems to be getting stronger, and enjoys visitors. He is currently at the Regency Rehabilitation Center on Steel Street in room 30, and can be reached by phone. Jill – K7JIL let us know that Rich N7ANF had an emergency room visit for a leg injury, but managed to get the coffee and cookies for tonight's meeting anyway – dedicated he is. Worth let us know that his XYL Marion is now home and beginning rehabilitation at St Claire's. Even the President, Nick Pier – KK7QS is here under the weather, suffering from sinus issues.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson –KD4VOM

None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC

Available for review

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Jill – K7JIL handed out several new member packets, membership certificates and estimates the current paid membership at around 150. All were reminded that they should renew their ARRL membership through the club. New ARRL members and those inactive with the ARRL over two years should know that the Club benefits by being able to retain $15 of their ARRL membership fee. Normal ARRL renewal memberships, when processed through the Club net the Club a $ 2.00 benefit.

90th Anniversary: Peter Baker – AD7EU who is chairing our 90th Anniversary committee solicited ideas and inputs from the membership. Information from our early history is needed. He is planning to have a social memory session to help identify folks and activities in our large photo selections as well as to develop a better historical perspective on the RCT. Ideas and suggestions are also welcome on activities and scheduling as well as the major Operating Event. Peter can be contacted by e-mail at: ad7eu.pg@gmail.com or by his address/phone number in the roster.

(A copy of Peter's strawman Anniversary Planning list is attached to the original minutes)

PROGRAM: Nick Winter—K7MO advised us that the upcoming programs will include one on Amateur Radio Direction Finding; Video program of a visit to the ARRL and a report on Ward Silver's – N0AX DXpedition to Kure Atoll.

Tonight's program was presented by Tom Randall, Secretary of the Mount Rainer Radio Control Society and Chris Jensen–W7YX. It included the strong relationships that Radio Control operations have with Amateur Radio, including its early origins, and continuing to the Ham band segments currently allocated to radio control operations. Several radio control model aircraft were presented along with a broad array of radio control systems, including a radio control simulator which is PC/Laptop based. George Wood, KA7HGE also presented his Piper Cub Scale radio control model. It was a great program. Tom Randall also left several information packets for members and a couple will be placed at the clubhouse for future reference.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Donated Vehicle: Mick Pier – KK7QS announced that following the last Board meeting, the club received an offer of $ 2,000 for the vehicle and has accepted the offer.

Field Day: Mick – KK7QS is still soliciting volunteers for this year's Field Day. We are a bit behind the power curve this year. Anyone who can Chair this event please contact Mick.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fist Code CD's: Steve Blacksten – KD7UBE Steve announced that he had received copies of the free Fist CW Code Training CD's and were available to members. They are in MP-3 format and require a CD player capable of playing MP-3 files (Older CD players frequently are not capable) Mick – KK7QS suggested we could make copies for the cost of creating CD's for members.

Books and Manuals: Bill Lucas – KB7IHB announced that he had a selection of Books and Manuals available, and noted that Steve Morton – AD7AB is having difficulty getting ARRL to continue the free shipping that Jerry Seligman W7BUN had been enjoying for years. It appears that Jerry's contact is also ill. Steve has also received an advance copy of the new question pool to get the instructional programs ready for training.

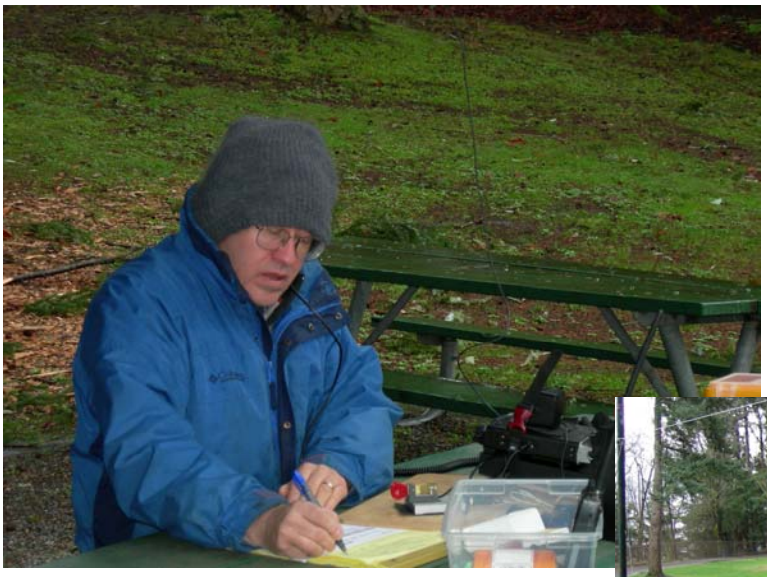
FYBO (Freeze Your Buns Off) QRP Contest: Chuck Kemmer – AC7QN made a brief report on the 4 February QRP contest which was impacted by the big storm we had. The road down to Owen's Beach was closed, so an alternate Pt. Defiance area was selected. Photos are on the W7DK website…

Tuner Hot topic: Worth – W7WG reported that a tuner he received from Chuck for work on 160 meters on his 817 is "set to go", a good tuner that heats up…

Door Prize won by:

Packets of RF connectors were won by John Clarke – AC7WW; and Gerhard Breivik –N7GWC

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm



At left, we see Nick, K7MO at the WW7LW FYBO field day event at Point Defiance park this month. You can see by Nick's attire that the weather conditions were really crummy, but that was a good thing, because they got more points for low temperatures!

Now, at the right, we see Rich KR7W and Al W7AML working the FYBO event. Nick, K7MO is at the rear explaining the madness to a visitor. What you can't see in this photograph is the low temperature, high winds and rain that the participants were being pummeled by!

W7DK IS 90!

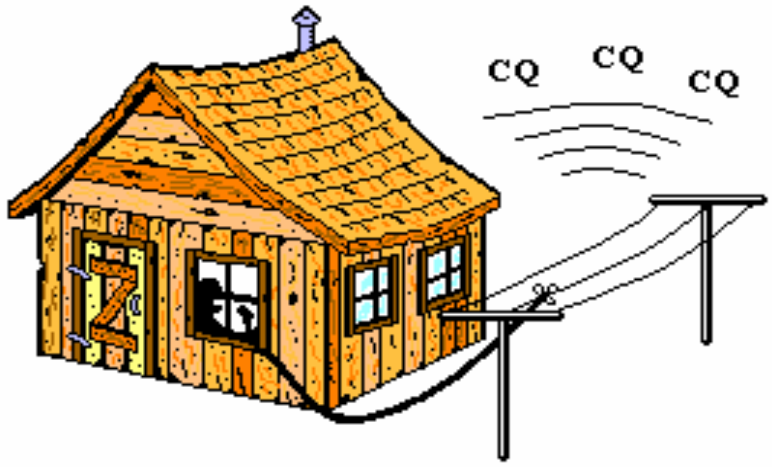
Remember W7DK turns 90 this year!

Watch the Bark for developments, and contact Peter Baker, AD7EU with ideas for the operating and social events.

As announced at the last meeting We'll get together on a Saturday in March to go over some of the pictures and materials we've found, to begin putting together a story of the club.

Peter can be reached at meetings or the club 2 meter net, via email at

ad7eu.pb@gmail.com or by telephone at 274-1957.



Another busy night at W7DK!

W7DK SAFETY CORNER

The Mission…

As many of you know, the W7DK Board of Directors recently created a new position within the club which will be known as the ***W7DK Safety Officer***. It is my honor to be chosen as the first appointee to this position and to help lay the ground-work for whoever follows in my footsteps. The Board has been extremely supportive and encouraging towards this new endeavor, but like any new "department" we have a long list of projects and a limited amount of funding to support them. I thought I would share with you, our membership, some of the projects that we've identified so that you'll know what is on the slate. Then, in upcoming issues, we'll highlight the progress that has been made towards meeting our goals.

The mission is…

To ensure a safe environment in the clubhouse, on the facility grounds, and at remote activities (such as W7DK at the Beach, Field Day, Hamfest, etc.) providing for the comfort, safety, and security of our members and guests.

To that end, we will be looking at…

- First-Aid Kits
- Drinking Water Station (remote)
- Exterior Lighting (clubhouse)
- Furnace Maintenance
- Enhanced Security/Smoke Alarm
- Fire Extinguishers
- Electrical Wiring Issues
- Battery Box (clubhouse)
- Generator Safety (remote)

I would also appreciate any suggestions that you may have to add to this list. Please email me at ke7emw@arrl.net . Finally, I would like to thank Bob Purdom (KE7DGQ) who has already donated some first-aid items. The company where Bob works recently decided to update their first-aid policy and materials. In the process, some very nice items became available for donation to W7DK that would otherwise have been thrown away. Thanks Bob! If you find yourself in a similar situation, or if you would like to sponsor some "start-up" items to get the Safety Department up and running, there are many items on the wish-list ranging from $5.00 to $50.00 (some of which you may already have laying around.) Please contact me if you would like to help!

Rick - KE7EMW

SHACK OF THE MONTH: WORTH, W7WG

Worth, W7WG, wanted all who visited his shack to know that he just cleaned it up. Some of the equipment seen in the photo is: Yaesu FT-101E, Yaesu FT-817, Straight Key from 1938, Kenwood 2 meter transceiver, antenna tuners, coil stock and alligator clip leads for impromptu experimental antenna tuning, sealed lead acid batteries for emergency power backup and a cornucopia of neat-o ham radio stuff. Whose shack will be featured next month? Stay tuned.

Rich, KR7W

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

March Birthday List		
Day	***Name***	***Call***
3	Bud Bush	N7HKS
5	Ron Lazarus	KC7J
5	Ray Carlson	W7RDZ
7	Steve Terjeson	KC7AZW
8	Link Jackman	N7CEO
9	Ari Chamberlin	KE7CRJ
9	Alfred Williams	K7PUC
10	Richard Ohls	K7ITX
10	John Perrizo	
11	Armand Gutierrez	KA5BBG
11	Betty Weston	KC7ACY
13	Bruce Paillette	KC7JPJ
14	Roy Ernsbarger	KA7X
15	Joanne Souter	WA4KZQ
16	Jerry Cerny	W7JC
16	Eric Langlow	WA7GHE
17	Patrick Kern	K7IBC
17	David Sloan	N0EOP
17	Jon Hamilton	AD7AW
19	Randy Thompson	AD7FF
21	Albert Carter	K5EAF
22	Scott Clausen	NF7Y
23	Helen Asplund	W7WRI
24	Robert Nagley	N7AHR
26	Chuck Kemmer	AC7QN
26	Morel Guyot	W6LIX
28	Raymond Miller Jr	KC7VEP